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some benefit from reading his book — not to please him, but for their own good.

C. W. V.

**The Four Gospels.** A New Translation from the Greek Text direct; with Reference to the Vulgate and the Ancient Syriac Version. By VERY REV. FRANCIS ALOSYSIUS SPENCER, O.P. Preface by His Eminence James, Cardinal Gibbons. New York: William H. Young & Co., 1898. xii + 280 pp. \$1.50.

In the making of this translation use has been made of the readings which represent the consensus of well-known editors, such as Tischendorf, Westcott and Hort, Lachmann, and the revisors. At the same time attention is called to the variation between the Vulgate and the Greek. The text is broken into sections, each with an appropriate title. Some of these are not altogether happy, as, for example, John 8: 21-29 stands under the heading, "Under Threat of Eternal Condemnation for Unbelief He Declares His Divinity." The text is further broken into the readings for the Sundays and principal feasts of the Roman church. Independence of translation is to be noticed in 8: 25, which he translates: "They said unto him therefore, 'Who are you?' Jesus said unto them, 'That which also I declare to you — The Beginning.'" In general the English is modern and vivid, though hardly to be compared in this respect with the extremely interesting "Twentieth Century New Testament," a portion of which has just been issued by the *Review of Reviews* in London. The volume has a reproduction of a number of portraits of Christ and the evangelists, which do not add especially to its value. It should also be noticed that the volume by its references constitutes a partial harmony of the gospels.

S. M.

**A Manual of Patrology;** being a Concise Account of the Chief Persons, Sects, Orders, etc., in Christian History from the First Century to the Period of the Reformation. With select Bibliographical References. By WALLACE NELSON STEARNS, A.M., B.D. With an Introduction by J. H. Thayer, D.D., Litt.D., Professor in the Divinity School of Harvard University. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1899. xviii + 176 pp. \$1.50, *net*.

There has been need of a book of precisely this character, and every student of historical theology and of church history will welcome it as

a sort of *vade mecum*. The amount of work which it evidences is altogether creditable to its author, while its various tables are exceedingly helpful. To pronounce finally upon the value of the book would mean to do the work entirely over again, but so far as it has been examined it is marked by gratifying accuracy. Occasionally, it is true, the description leaves something to be desired, as, for example, the bald reference to Gregory VII. as "one of the greatest of the popes, labored for papal independence, died in exile." One hardly sees in such a description the real Hildebrand. In several cases we should also differ with the list of literature given. But such criticism is not vital, and the book deserves a hearty reception. S. M.

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**Elijah and Elisha**, Prophets of Israel. By REV. RONALD G. MACINTYRE, B.D. ("Bible Class Primers" Series, edited by Professor Salmond.) Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark; New York: Imported by Charles Scribner's Sons, no date. Pp. 112 and map. \$0.20.

The author had a difficult task, to present, from the traditional point of view, the careers of these extraordinary forerunners of the prophetic teachers of Israel. He has succeeded in telling the story simply and graphically. His explanation of the difficulties would have been much simplified if he had been able to accept a legendary element in the narrative, but probably the Scotland for which this series is prepared is not yet ready to take such advanced ground.

G. S. G.

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#### LITERARY NOTES.

THE Open Court Publishing Co., Chicago, issues a second and enlarged edition of the *Ethical Problem*, by Dr. Paul Carus, which contains, besides the original three lectures, the entire controversy which sprang up about them (pp. xxiv+351; \$0.50).

G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS, New York, publish *Methods and Problems of Spiritual Healing*, by H. W. Dresser (pp. 10), in which an effort is made to state rationally the matter suggested by the subject of the book. The preface declares that the author's purpose is quite as much to stimulate thought as to offer practical suggestions. The author does not in any way subscribe to the creed of the Christian scientists.